

sense of the House of Representatives regarding the importance of preventing the Government of Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapons capability.”

Once again we see on the “suspension” calendar, which is customarily reserved for non-controversial legislation, a resolution designed to move the U.S. toward a military conflict with Iran. Sadly, it has become non-controversial for Congress to call for U.S. attacks on foreign countries that have neither attacked nor threatened the United States.

We should not fool ourselves about the timing of this legislation. Next week, high-level talks between Iran and the five permanent U.N. Security Council members plus Germany, P5+1, will resume. Those who seek U.S. military action against Iran must fear that successful diplomacy will undermine their calls for war.

Disturbingly, some of my colleagues have suggested this resolution can be read as a form of ersatz Congressional approval for the use of military force against Iran.

The International Atomic Energy Agency, IAEA, has the authority to monitor the Iranian nuclear program to determine whether nuclear material is being diverted from civilian to military uses. The IAEA has never reported an Iranian violation. This legislation attempts to scare us into believing otherwise, but that fact remains. And the U.S. Intelligence Community agrees with IAEA conclusions on this matter.

The most dangerous aspect of H. Res. 568 is that it dramatically lowers the threshold for conflict with Iran by replacing the prohibition against acquiring nuclear weapons to a prohibition against a “capability” to develop nuclear weapons.

However, as former senior Bush administration official, Flynt Leverett, has stated:

Iranian efforts to develop a “nuclear weapons capability” . . . may make American and Israeli elites uncomfortable. But it is not a violation of the NPT. . . . While the NPT prohibits non-nuclear-weapon states from building atomic bombs, developing a nuclear weapons capability is, [allowed] under the NPT . . . It is certainly not a justification—strategically, legally, or morally—for armed aggression against Iran.

But this resolution states that the House “rejects any United States policy that would rely on efforts to contain a nuclear weapons-capable Iran.” That makes it very clear that the intent of the House is to authorize force against Iran not if it acquires a nuclear weapon, but if it has a “capability” to acquire them some time in the future. The term “capability” is left undefined, of course, leaving it open to very broad interpretations by this and future administrations.

Mr. Speaker, this is incredibly dangerous legislation. I urge my colleagues in the strongest manner to reject this stealth authorization for war on Iran.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE DEDICATION OF THE BUST OF FATHER ALEXANDER DUCHNOVICH IN THE RUSIN CULTURAL GARDEN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the dedication of the bust of Fa-

ther Alexander Duchnovich in the Rusin Cultural Garden on June 24, 2012.

The 254 acre piece of land that constitutes Rockefeller Park was donated to the City of Cleveland by John D. Rockefeller in 1896. The gardens were founded in 1926 to create a memorial area for the diverse ethnic groups that shape the region, and to serve as a space of reflection on peace, cooperation and understanding. The Cultural Gardens are currently a collection of 26 gardens which include African-American, American Indian, British, Chinese, Czech, Estonian, German, Hebrew, Hungarian, Irish, Italian, Polish, and Slovenian gardens, among others.

The Rusin Cultural Garden was dedicated in 1939. In May of 1952, the then leader of the Rusin Cultural Garden Association, Reverend Joseph Hanulya, unveiled a bust of Alexander Duchnovich. Alexander Duchnovich, a Greek Catholic priest, wrote the Rusin national anthem. His writings sought to unify Carpatho-Rusins. Unfortunately, the bust disappeared from the garden sometime during the 1970s.

Decades later, John Krenisky, a Cleveland and member of the Carpatho-Rusyn Society began fundraising for a replacement bust of Father Duchnovich. On November 21, 2011, after more than ten years of work, a bronze replacement bust designed by Wawrytko Studios & Light Sculpture Works was installed in the Rusin Cultural Garden. A celebration to dedicate the bust and efforts of Mr. Krenisky will include a performance by the Living Traditions Fold Ensemble and banquet at Holy Spirit Church.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognition of the dedication of the bust of Father Alexander Duchnovich in the Rusin Cultural Garden.

CONGRATULATING TAIWANESE PRESIDENT MA YING-JEUO

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2012

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Taiwanese President Ma Ying-jeou on his upcoming inauguration to a second term.

Taiwan is a strategic partner of the United States. The enactment of the Taiwan Relations Act more than 30 years ago is a testament to our relationship. The lasting ties between Taiwan and the U.S. are due, in part, to enduring personal relationships between our two countries.

Our shared love of liberty and respect for our citizenry, upon which our governments were founded, has been truly exemplified by President Ma Ying-jeou.

President Ma enjoys a unique relationship with the U.S., having graduated from two of our most celebrated universities (New York University and Harvard University). His continued leadership to enhance our mutual goals has had a lasting impact on all Americans.

We wish him and the people of Taiwan well in the future and thank him for the cooperation in meeting the challenges we have faced together as allies.

Our future challenges are great and we know we can count on Taiwan as a strategic

partner to join us in meeting those challenges as well.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. MICHAEL SALVATORE

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2012

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Michael Salvatore, Superintendent of Long Branch Public Schools. Mr. Salvatore is a gifted and passionate educator who has dedicated his life's work to serving the students of the Long Branch community. His dedication and positive transformation of the Long Branch Public School system have earned him the prestigious recognition bestowed upon him by the Long Branch Concordance. His efforts are truly worthy of this body's recognition.

Michael Salvatore has been employed with the Long Branch Public School System for 14 years and is dedicated to serving the students and families of Long Branch, New Jersey. He began as a preschool teacher and was later promoted to Principal at the Gregory School. Mr. Salvatore quickly won the hearts of many Long Branch children and families. His contagious enthusiasm and positive attitude led to the appointment as a core member of the State Department of Education's Leadership Advisory Council, where he trained hundreds of administrators throughout New Jersey. He has also held the title of District Administrator and Assistant Superintendent. In 2011, Mr. Salvatore was appointed Superintendent of the Long Branch Public School System. Mr. Salvatore's work is surrounded by a motto “Where Children Matter Most” and continues to successfully execute this ideal throughout his schools. He remains a firm believer that the quality of any organization cannot exceed the quality of its leaders and continues to craft a principal leadership network to improve essential practices directly correlated to student achievement. Superintendent Salvatore is also a proponent of technologically advanced approaches to education. The use of tablet technology, podcast messaging, green energy and cloud computing have been utilized to enhance the classroom experience. Mr. Salvatore is also working diligently to encourage greater community involvement through parent forums and school festivals. A community brunch, inspired and executed by Superintendent Salvatore, fed more than five hundred people during the holidays. Mr. Salvatore's outstanding leadership abilities and dedication to his craft continue to further enhance a student's educational experience.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. Michael Salvatore, Superintendent of Long Branch Public Schools for receiving the honor bestowed by the Long Branch Concordance. His dedication and innovative foresight continues to affect the lives of students throughout Long Branch, New Jersey.